



INTERCOM



SOCIAL INVESTMENT NEWS

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*MISSION - To help residents of inner cities improve
the quality of their lives to reflect individual
God-given dignity and personal achievement*

Gateway to Employment

As mentioned in previous issues, **Gateway-to-Work** is NCC's answer to Welfare Reform. All welfare recipients who enroll in Gateway are actively and progressively engaged in job search, alternative work experience, job placement, activities with support services including job coaching, specialized services, and referral for substance abuse treatment.

In order for the program to work and to be validated by our funding sources (Federal, State, County), several specialists are required - intake, outreach, employment, job placement, instructor, and coach. All of these caring people tend to go the proverbial "extra mile" in teaching, motivating, counseling and follow -up.

Stories of former Welfare recipients attest to NCC **Gateway-to-Work** concern --

Helen Dunell, a single mother of four children, had been on welfare since 1987. She had no high school diploma, very little work experience, and extremely low self-esteem. Despite her fears of never getting beyond minimum wage, Helen listened to instructors and counselors, slowly absorbing the skills of job searching and interviewing. Counselors provided consistent encouragement. She began her job search on 10/18/99; she started her \$7.00 per hour job before Thanksgiving '99. By Christmas Helen made permanent employee status based on her work performance and ability to get along with others. Presently, she is training new hires. Helen is a valued employee whose self-image is no longer tarnished. The road to total financial independence and self-sufficiency is no longer endless.

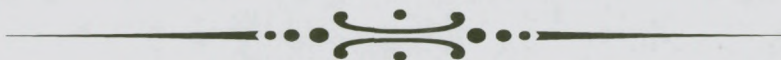
Tyasha Mickens entered the program on 2/14/00. Perfect attendance and real determination to make a better life for herself drove Tyasha to succeed in the Gateway program. Single, with a six year old daughter, she has kept her faith in God and herself. Ms. Mickens honed her computer

and leadership skills. Her subsequent interview went well ending with a position at New Hope Behavioral Center as an Administrative Assistant. Gateway staff continues to monitor her success.

Kisha Hickson graduated from high school in 1992 with a dream of working in law enforcement. By 1993 she was a single parent who accepted the routine of the welfare life style. Her second child was born in 1997. By now the pressure of the Welfare Reform Initiative was pushing her through a series of Work First Programs. She went through the motions.

In December 1999, Kisha was referred to Gateway. Shortly thereafter, she described her experience __ "The program was great. It was a big change from the others. I learned so much that I didn't know like that there were so many job opportunities... everybody in the program was great... I knew I could turn to many people for help when I needed it."

Ms. Hickson is working as a security guard for Rite-Aid at \$7.00 per hour with full benefits. She is interested in furthering her education and finally becoming a good role model for her daughters.

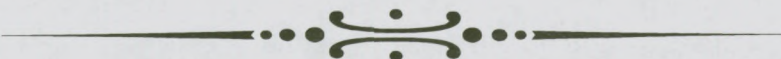


Sisters of St. Joseph -- Chestnut Hill, Pa

The Sisters of St. Joseph "Fund for Those Who are Materially Poor" has proven to be a God-send to several of our parishioners at St. Rose of Lima.

The Social Ministry office of the parish applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from the Congregation at Chestnut Hill. The money will be used for rent and utilities for many of our immigrant population.

A mission consistent with the mission and vision of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill is one of the qualifications for receiving a grant. Indeed, St. Rose of Lima Parish, an NCC Network member, clearly qualifies with its mission *to improve the quality of life.*



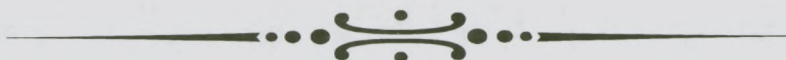
AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps is part of the service network of the Corporation for National Service. They have been "getting things done" since 1984. Teams consist of 10 to 15 members led by a team leader. They accomplish projects in four areas - environment, education,

public safety, and human needs. **AmeriCorps** also serves in disaster relief and fighting forest fires. NCC Real Estate Department applied for and received the services of a team of 15 young adults (18 years To 24 years) who will help us rehab some of our vacant senior apartments.

The group is presently in NCC living in our apartments; working with NCC Environmental Services Department; and enjoying the cultural events presented in Newark and New York City.

With the help of this energetic group of volunteers, NCC should be able to lower the number of vacancies more quickly and house many of the eligible seniors on the waiting list.



Social Investment

In Faithful Citizenship: Civic Responsibility for a New Millennium (1999 by U.S. Catholic Conference), the Bishops have made clear statements, for example, on immigration, violence, and discrimination.

Immigration. The gospel mandate to love our neighbor and welcome the stranger leads the Church to care for immigrants, both documented and undocumented.

Violence. This concern leads us to promote a greater sense of moral responsibility, to advocate a reduction in violence in the media, to support gun safety measures... and to oppose the death penalty.

Discrimination. Our society must also combat discrimination based on sex, race, ethnicity or age...

New Community makes it a practice to care for immigrants, to denounce violence, and to overcome the malicious effects of discrimination. Please help us in our efforts.

Invest with NCC at 8%.

Zenobia Smith-Brack

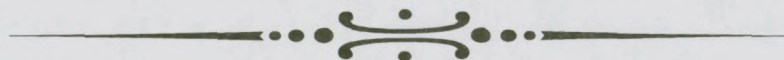
In 1984 Zenobia Brack received a BSN from Bloomfield College, N.J. She is also certified in CPR and IV.

Before coming to NCC in 1995, Ms. Brack served in several capacities. In Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Zenobia was a nephrology nurse performing peritoneal dialysis in many forms. She was a charge nurse supervising and delegating nurses, orderlies and messengers. From 1989 to 1995, Zenobia was associated with Patient Care Medical Services, Inc. Here Ms. Brack supervised Community Health Nurses; coordinated and implemented a certified home health aide program; and initiated and implemented much needed in-service for the aides.

Zenobia's professional background is ideal for managing NCC's Home Health Care Services with 156 full and part time aides and three nurses who care for over 500 patients in any given month. Her job demands strict adherence to Federal, State, and Local Standards--guidelines and regulations that govern the program. Since performing that job so thoroughly and with such attention to detail and having no deficiencies for two years, NCC Home Health Care has received final accreditation AND Zenobia has been appointed to the Commission on Accreditation. They made a wise choice.

With the same assertiveness, poise, and confidence she displays at the office, Zenobia took over the role of mothering the five children of her ailing sister. With one child of her own, that was an act of a very caring and compassionate woman. It helped that she is (according to her staff) thorough, detailed, and supportive.

Ms. Smith-Brack is a regular Church-goer who enjoys reading and bowling. One of her greatest loves is people, especially the sick and infirm. She is also very interested in dancing - the Electric Slide. NCC could not have a more efficient or devoted employee. We are blessed.



**Risen Lord, I thank you that all things are
new because of your resurrection. Prepare me to share this
Good News wherever I go.**

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